



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/618,417	07/11/2003	Steven J. Zumbusch	01-HSP-139	7066
200	7590	01/25/2006	EXAMINER	
EATON CORPORATION EATON CENTER 1111 SUPERIOR AVENUE CLEVELAND, OH 44114			LAZO, THOMAS E	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		3745		

DATE MAILED: 01/25/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/618,417	ZUMBUSCH, STEVEN J.
	Examiner Thomas E. Lazo	Art Unit 3745

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 06 May 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/11/03</u> .	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it is more than 150 words in length.

Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Objections

Claims 2 and 4 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 2, line 2, “comprises” should be --comprising--.

In claim 4, lines 2 and 3, “IPOR” should be --internal pressure override--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. One is not enabled as to how the single relief valve assembly can communicate pressurized fluid from the fluid outlet port to the

fluid inlet port. It appears that relief valve assembly 25 would block fluid from the outlet port 15 towards the inlet port 17.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4, 6, and 5, as far as it is enabled are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Geringer (6,109,030). Geringer discloses a tandem pump assembly with a housing defining a fluid inlet port and a fluid outlet port 20, a first pump 12 disposed in the housing and driven by an input shaft 26, the first pump 12 including a variable displacement, over-center pump, including first fluid pressure responsive means 30 for varying the displacement of the first pump in response to the porting of a control pressure, the first pump 12 having an inlet in fluid communication with the fluid inlet port, and an outlet in fluid communication with the fluid outlet port 20, a second pump 14 disposed in the housing and driven by the input shaft 26, the second pump 14 having an inlet in fluid communication with the fluid inlet port, and an outlet in fluid communication with the fluid outlet port 20, wherein a pressure override valve means 40 is associated with only the first pump 12, and operable, in response to a fluid pressure at the fluid outlet port 20 in excess of a pressure override setting (spring 58), to communicate pressurized fluid to the first fluid pressure responsive means 30, in a manner tending to decrease the displacement of the first pump 12 without effecting the

displacement of the second pump 14, until the fluid pressure is substantially equal to the pressure override setting, the first pump 12 includes an axial piston pump 12 having a tiltable swashplate 28, and the first fluid pressure responsive means 30 is operable to vary the tilt angle of the swashplate 28 in response to variations in the control pressure, the first fluid pressure responsive means 30 comprising a servo control cylinder including a piston 32 biased by the control pressure 38 toward a position corresponding to increased displacement of the first pump 12, the pressure override valve means includes one internal pressure override valve 40 having its inlet in fluid communication with the outlet of the first pump 12, the internal pressure override valve 40 has its outlet 37 in fluid communication with the servo control cylinder 30 to communicate the pressurized fluid thereto to bias the piston 32 in a direction opposite the direction in which the piston is biased by the control pressure 38, and the second pump 14 includes a variable displacement pump including second fluid pressure responsive means 30A for varying the displacement of the second pump 14 in response to the porting of the control pressure.

Prior Art

Prior art made of record but not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure and consists of four patents.

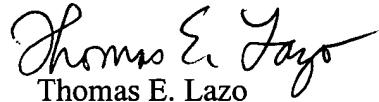
Ishizaki et al., Schneiderjan et al., Virtue et al., and Louis et al. are cited to show tandem pump assemblies.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Thomas Lazo whose telephone number is (571) 272-4818. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor Edward Look, can be reached on (571) 272-4820. The fax phone number for this Group is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Thomas E. Lazo
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3745
January 18, 2006